

# Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



## Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal October 19, 2023

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Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you and your family are well. We have been enjoying the burst of sunshine this week and hope you have been too.

This past week, fifth graders enjoyed Caine's Arcade. This annual event is an excellent example of Deep Learning in Action as students collaborate to design and build arcade games out of cardboard boxes, tape and string. The first half of the morning was dedicated to building the games and the second half was dedicated to playing the games. Students from across the grade levels, staff members and parents all tried their hand at the arcade. It was terrific fun playing the games and cheering on the other players. Check out the pictures below.

Keep reading for some dates to remember, reminders about staying healthy in cold and flu season, Halloween festivities, being a good neighbor and drop off procedures.

### **Dates to Remember:**

**10/22 - 10/31 - Red Ribbon Week**

**10/26 - Recess with Danville P.D.**

**10/31 - Adjusted Wednesday Schedule for Halloween**

**All TK / K = 8:00am - 11:30am**

**All 1st - 5th = 8:00am - 12:50pm**

**10/31 - Halloween Parade - 9:15am**

**11/01 - No School**

### **Stay Healthy:**

As the weather begins shifting, we are starting to see an increase in colds and know that flu season is just around the corner. We are reminding kiddos to

wash their hands often and cover their coughs and sneezes. Nurse Kristi Nolan has posted this spirited reminder for students.



### Halloween:

We shared this information last week but wanted to be sure folks saw it so are sharing it again. Please note, Halloween is Tuesday, October 31st and it is an Adjusted Wednesday school schedule.

**All TK / K = 8:00am - 11:30am**

**All 1st - 5th = 8:00am - 12:50pm**

Halloween Parade will run from 9:15-10:00ish and all grades will participate. This is a fun way to begin the day! Following the parade, students will return to campus to resume the usual schedule. Campus is not open to parents during the school day unless you have signed up to volunteer for a specific assignment.

Individual classes will share the details for their Halloween parties including requests for any needed volunteers. The parties are for the children only. Volunteers for the parties will need to be cleared through Be A Mentor and signed in at the office.





### **Be a Good Neighbor:**

I have received complaints from our neighbors across the street regarding our parents pulling into their neighborhood in order to avoid the line at the light. Please help us be a good neighbor and be patient as you wait to turn onto Holbrook. Thank you!

### **Drop Off:**

Please remember that once you pull up to the curb, we ask that your child hop out of the car. We need to keep the line moving which means cars need to exit the line as soon as possible rather than waiting until they get to the top of the line. Our kiddos are young and healthy and can easily manage the walk to the playground gate.

Thank you,  
Patricia Kawahara

**GO SHARKS!**

## **IMPORTANT DATES**



**10/05 - Monster Mash Tickets On Sales through Friday 10/20/23**

**10/22-10/31 - Red Ribbon Week**

**10/26 - Recess with Danville P.D.**

**10/27 - Monster Mash - Blacktop & MPR - 5:00pm - 6:30pm**

**10/30 - Free Trial Class - Lego Robotics and STEM Basic 2:30 - Library**

**10/31 - Adjusted Wednesday Schedule**

**All TK /K = 8:00 - 11:30**

**All 1st - 5th grade = 8:00 - 12:50**

**10/31 - Halloween Parade 9:15am - Turf Field**

**11/06 - Lego Robotics and STEM Basic w/ Lego Enrichment class begins**

**11/08 - PTA Association Meeting 8:00am - MPR**

**11/08 - Dippin Dots**

**11/09 - Sports Camp Enrichment classes - Session #2 Starts - MPR**

## Attendance Line



**Please call the attendance line  
to report an absence:  
925-855-2898**

**AR 5113 States that all absences which are not cleared  
within two days after a student's return to school shall be  
recorded as unexcused (CUT).**

Reminder:

- If your child will be absent from school, please call the attendance line (925) 855-2898. State your name and relationship, your child's name, grade and teacher name along with the reason for absence. If your child is ill, please let us know what symptoms your child is experiencing.
- If your child has COVID-19, please notify the school office.
- If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information.

It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared beyond administrative or nursing staff.

Note: Even if you have notified your child's teacher, please call the attendance line to record the absence!

**Thank you.**

**Reminder:**  
**If you need to drop-off items for your  
child or their teacher,  
please call the school office  
when you arrive at the main gate.  
(925) 855-2800**

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**Sign Up genius links:**

Here are the links to sign up for Lunch Recess Help on Election Day (1 adult per classroom needed), General Lunch Recess Helpers, General Morning Recess Helpers, and the Halloween Parade Volunteers.

**November 7th Election Day Lunch Recess:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-45312865-election>

**Lunch Recess General Volunteers:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-44467019-lunch>

**Sycamore General Recess Volunteers:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-44466238-sycamore>

**Halloween Parade Volunteers:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-45392607-sycamore>

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**Enrollment for incoming TK and K students for the 24/25 school year will be held Online November 13, 2023 - December 15, 2023.**

We look forward to enrolling your child in our Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten programs for the 2024-25 school year. Please find attached a flyer containing information on enrollment/registration dates and Parent/Caregiver information sessions.

Feel free to reach out to our office with any questions.

- [24-25 TK-K Flyer in digital format](#)

**Parent Information Nights:**

- **TK Parent Information Night - Tuesday, October 17 at 5:30 pm** passcode: 132915
- **Kindergarten Parent Information Night - Thursday, October 19 at 5:30 pm** passcode: 670552

# TK & Kindergarten Enrollment



We look forward to enrolling your child in our Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten program for the 2024-25 school year.

## = Registration Dates =

**Enrollment Window Opens**  
Monday, November 13, 2023

**Enrollment Window Closes\***  
Friday, December 15, 2023

\* Completed online enrollment applications must be submitted by December 15 to be included in the first round of confirmation of space at the resident school site. Online enrollment applications submitted after December 15 are received on a first come first served basis for space.

## = Age Guidelines =

**To be eligible for TK for 2024-25**  
Your child must turn 5 years of age  
on or between  
September 2, 2024 to June 2, 2025

**To be eligible for KINDERGARTEN for 2024-25**  
Your child must turn 5 years of age  
on or before  
September 1, 2024

**First day of instruction: August 14, 2024**

## 2024-25 information

### Parent Information Nights

(Hosted via Zoom)

Zoom access links can be found on our TK/Kinder webpage

#### TK Information Night

Tues., October 17, 2023  
5:30 - 6:30 pm

#### Kinder Information Night

Thur., October 19, 2023  
5:30 - 6:30 pm

#### TK/Kindergarten webpage info

Zoom links for Info Meetings

TK FAQ

Kindergarten Readiness

TK/Kinder Enrollment Quick Reference



699 OLD ORCHARD DR, DANVILLE  
WWW.SRVUSD.NET | CALL 925 552 5500

Click here for the [Shark Spirit Shop](#)

# SYCAMORE VALLEY SPIRIT WEAR STORE



1ST PLACE   
Spiritwear

ORDER AT [1STPLACE.SALE/13542](https://www.1stplace.sale/13542)



## FUN RUN:

Sycamore Valley Elementary - 20th Annual Fun Run is coming!

Pledge packets went home this week. Check your child's school folders or backpack.

Easy online pledge option available! <http://www.pledgestar.com/sycamore/>

For 2023:

- All students who run will get a prize! (Must have signed pledge form turned in to run!)
- The top 20 students and the class who earn the most pledge dollars will get an ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT SYCAMORE PARK!

**Signed pledge forms due November 3, 2023**

Fun Run: Thursday, November 9th at the Turf Field

**Grade Colors:**

TK: Orange 3: Green

K : Purple 4: Dark Blue

1: Yellow 5: Rainbow

2: Red

Questions: Erin Meyer— [erin@meyerca.com](mailto:erin@meyerca.com)

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**Virtual Dyslexia Simulation -  
An Interactive Online Event for Families**



Artist credit: Paddy Donnelly, <https://lefft.com/dyslexia-beach/>

In recognition of national Dyslexia Awareness Month, Decoding Dyslexia CA's Tri-Valley Support Group and the San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs' Exceptional Education Committee are co-hosting an interactive workshop that will help individuals gain a better understanding of and empathy for children and adults with dyslexia.

Thursday, October 19, 2023

7:00pm - 8:30pm

On Zoom

Please **REGISTER** in advance and you will be emailed a unique link to join the meeting.

Dyslexia is a language-based learning difference that makes learning to read difficult. Participants will be guided through a series of exercises that simulate how those with dyslexia experience reading, writing and processing information in the classroom.

The experience is designed for adults, but families with older children may wish to participate together.





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## Extracurricular Extension Programs for Grades 1 - 5 in the subjects of Science, Language, Arts, Math and Research!

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### Research:

The research topic for September/October is "Festival Around the World". For those that already created a presentation for last month's event, please email Raj at [rajiedeol@gmail.com](mailto:rajiedeol@gmail.com) to get SLAM credit. Those that would still like to create a presentation (e.g. tri-fold, slideshow, video, etc.) are welcome to do so for the country of your choice. Presentations are due **Friday, October 27th**.

### SuperSTEM:

September and October/November issues of SuperSTEM are due **Thursday, November 30** (extended from October 27). Please [download](#), complete, and hand in the skills worksheets at the front office SLAM bin. Student work will be returned after credit is given.

Thank you to those that attended our SLAM Info Night! If you missed it, you can check out the presentation [here](#) and get all the information you need about SLAM on our [website](#).

## SLAM Program signups are now open! Please sign up your students [here](#).

Most SLAM programs are best suited for 3rd-5th graders, however, several programs this year are open to students from grades 1-2 also (if there is enough interest and we have enough parent volunteers).

### We are still looking for parent volunteers and coaches to help lead the following programs:

- Odyssey of the Mind
- Science Olympiad

All SLAM volunteers are required to have level 1 clearance through the district (level 2 or 3 may be required in certain circumstances). Please see the district's [volunteer requirements](#). Learn more about the open roles in SLAM and sign up to volunteer [here](#).

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Any questions about SLAM?  
Please email : [goscymoreslam@gmail.com](mailto:goscymoreslam@gmail.com)



## Monster Mash: October 27, 2023

**Ticket Sales end tomorrow, Oct. 20th at 11:00pm**

Sharky invites your family to Sycamore for a Halloween-themed night of fun on October 27th from 5-6:30pm. Join your friends for games, pizza and other refreshments, BYO pumpkin decorating and carving, prize drawings, cupcake walk, glow-stick dance party and more! Bring your own pumpkin and Shark Fund will provide the supplies. Tickets on sale NOW (they sell out quickly): <https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store>.

Ready to get involved and help make this event a success?! [Sign up here.](#)

Bring your own pumpkin and Shark Fund will provide the supplies.

**Tickets on sale Now (they sell out quickly):**

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store>



### Dippin' Dot Calendar:

**11/08, 11/29**

**Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!**

Punch cards can be purchased for **\$25.00** at all Dippin Dot Wednesday events with cash or check made payable to "Sycamore Shark Fund"

- Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free
- Save time in line
- No need to bring money to school
- Families can share one card

- 100% of proceeds benefit your students at Sycamore

**Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our  
Wednesday Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraiser.**

Dippin dots has sold **over \$4,500!!!!!!**

Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30 am near the Kinder playground  
1st-5th Grade Sales @ 12:50-1:10pm near the back MPR/blacktop entrance

Lost Punch Cards or any other Dippin Dot questions please contact

Dippin' Dot Dana Claffey

925-407-7178 [Dana.claffey@gmail.com](mailto:Dana.claffey@gmail.com)



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**Double the impact of your school donations with Corporate Match!**  
Follow these simple steps: <https://srvef.org/matching-gifts/>

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 ELI LILLY GENENTECH AT&T ADOBE WELLS FARGO




DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH  
**CORPORATE MATCH**

LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER

# OVER \$35,000

FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!




1 YOU DONATE

2 THEY MATCH IT

3 DOUBLE THE IMPACT

SEE IF YOUR EMPLOYER WILL MATCH YOUR DONATION  
[HTTPS://WWW.SRVEF.ORG/DONATE/MATCHINGGIFTS.ASPX](https://www.srvef.org/donate/matchinggifts.aspx)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TODD STRACKE AT  
 TODD.STRACKE@CLOROX.COM OR (510) 219-8589

Sycamore Valley Shark Fund is an affiliate of the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation  
 Donations are 100% tax-deductible. 501c3 Tax ID #94-3390401

Do you need a way to keep track of all of your students' items at school? Buy personal labels for your kids at [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) Choose our organization from the list, **Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund**, and we'll earn 20% from it!



Keep your things out of the lost and found!

mabel's labels  
FUNDRAISING

Buy personal labels for your kids at  
[campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com)

Choose our organization from the list  
**Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund**  
 and we'll earn 20% from it!




THANK YOU TO SYCAMORE'S 23-24  
PLATINUM CORPORATE SPONSORS



## Library Corner

### Big news! Our first book fair of the year is coming!

Mark your calendars for the week of November 14-17 to shop our book fair and support the library!

Want to get your shopping started early? You can shop our online companion fair and it still counts towards our book fair totals.

Shop here: <https://efairs.literati.com/?school=sycamore-valley-elementary-school-danville-ca>

Pre-purchase online gift cards for your student(s) so they can shop independently during their library class time here: <https://efairs.literati.com/product-category/gift-cards>

Take Care,  
Jen Prindiville  
Library Media Coordinator  
Sycamore Valley Elementary

# Sharky Shout Out:

Christine Hoffman who tirelessly dedicates hours behind the scenes putting together the entire Sycamore Directory, assisting with Dippin Dots, creating all flyers on campus, shark bites and the marquee. Not to mention she has assisted in raising over thousands in sponsorships, and much much more!



## Mark your calendar:

**November 2nd, 2023**

Meeting ID

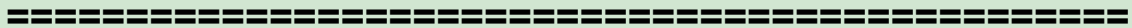
[meet.google.com/ifh-qzdn-eug](https://meet.google.com/ifh-qzdn-eug)

Phone Numbers

(US) [+1 567-228-0092](tel:+15672280092)

PIN: 863 717 707#

**November 30th, 2023**



More information about Site Council is available at:

<https://syes.srvusd.net/Families/Site-Council/Site-Council/index.html>



## Black Dragon Chess - Fall 2023

Chess classes will be offered Thursday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.

Chess class will be held in our school library.

Aug. 24 - Nov. 02, 2023

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)



## **Brick Techniques: STEM Basics with Lego**

Oct. 30, 2023

Free Class - Introduction to STEM Basics and Lego Robotics.

[Free STEM Basic with Lego](#)

## **Lego Robotics - Fall 2023**

**Grades 3rd - 5th**

Nov. 06 - Dec. 18, 2023

No class on Nov. 20th

2:30pm - 4:00pm School Science 1/3 Room next to the Library

See attached flyer to sign up

[Lego Robotics Enrichment Class](#)

## **Brick Techniques: STEM Basics with Lego - Fall 2023**

**Grades K - 2nd**

Nov. 06 - Dec. 18, 2023

No class on Nov. 20th

2:30pm - 4:00pm School Library

See attached flyer to sign up

[STEM Basics with Lego](#)

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## **Sports Camp - Fall 2023 - Session #2 Starts Nov. 09, 2023**

Description: This Multi-Sport program combines all your favorite sports into one action-packed after-school enrichment experience. Each week participants will learn the fundamentals of a new sport through PLAY! Sports include: Baseball, Basketball, Capture the Ball, Dodgeball, Flag Football, Soccer, Volleyball, and Ultimate Disc! Skyhawks Coaches provide a positive environment where young athletes can develop at their own pace with lots of encouragement and a big focus on FUN! Your child will leave with new skills, new friends, and a new love for sports!

[Sports Camp Flyer](#)



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If you have not done so already, you are welcome to order school photos. Here is the link.

<https://www.ciphotoca.com/sycamorevalley>

You will need to know your child's student number. This can be found in your parent portal.



The Lost & Found rack is located at the front of our school near the MPR.

Please make sure that your child's name is  
marked in their clothing.

Smaller Lost & Found items are in the Office.

Water Bottles and Lunch Boxes are on the shelf in the MPR.



## Child Nutrition

### Meals Provided @ Sycamore

**Breakfast & Lunch will be provided at no cost to all students that request a meal at school.**

#### [MENUS](#)

For more information about the meals, please visit the Child Nutrition Website.  
<https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Child-Nutrition/index.html>

### Job Openings with Child Nutrition Join the School Meals Team

Sycamore Valley Elementary | 2200 Holbrook Road, Danville, CA 94506

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